

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A polypeptide immunogen consisting of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, or a sequence that differs from SEQ ID NO: 1 by with up to 15 amino acid alterations from SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein said polypeptide immunogen provides protective immunity against *S. aureus*.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The polypeptide immunogen of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide immunogen consists of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a sequence differing from SEQ ID NO: 1 by an amino acid sequence with up to 10 amino acid alterations from SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The polypeptide immunogen of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide immunogen consists essentially of amino acids 3-260 of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3-264 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The polypeptide immunogen of claim 3, wherein said polypeptide immunogen consists of an the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 5 (currently amended): An immunogen ~~comprising~~ consisting of: (i) a polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a sequence differing from SEQ ID NO: 1 by with up to 15 amino acid alterations from SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein said polypeptide provides protective immunity against *S. aureus*, and (ii) one or more additional regions or moieties covalently joined to said polypeptide at the carboxyl terminus or the amino terminus, wherein each region or moiety is different from an sai-1 region and is independently selected from a region or moiety having at least one of the following properties: enhances the immune response, facilitates purification, or facilitates polypeptide stability;
wherein said sai-1 region is present on a sequence found in a *S. aureus* sequence having at least 30 contiguous amino acids as provided in SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 6 (previously presented): A composition able to induce a protective immune response in a patient comprising an immunologically effective amount of the immunogen of claim 5 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 7 (original): The composition of claim 6, wherein said composition further comprises an adjuvant.

Claims 8-18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (previously presented): The polypeptide immunogen of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide immunogen is substantially purified.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The polypeptide immunogen of claim 19, wherein said polypeptide immunogen is at least 99% identical to SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The polypeptide immunogen of claim 19, wherein said polypeptide immunogen consists of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a sequence differing from SEQ ID NO: 1 by with up to 10 amino acid alterations from SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The polypeptide immunogen of claim 19, wherein said polypeptide immunogen consists of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a sequence differing from SEQ ID NO: 1 by with up to 5 amino acid alterations from SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The polypeptide immunogen of claim 19, wherein said polypeptide immunogen consists of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a sequence differing from SEQ ID NO: 1 by with up to 1 amino acid alteration from SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The polypeptide immunogen of claim 19, wherein said polypeptide immunogen consists essentially of amino acids 3-260 of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3-264 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 25 (currently amended): The polypeptide immunogen of claim 19, wherein said polypeptide immunogen consists of ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 26 (currently amended): A composition comprising an immunologically effective amount of a polypeptide immunogen consisting of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a sequence that differs from SEQ ID NO: 1 by with up to 15 amino acid alterations from SEQ ID NO: 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said polypeptide immunogen provides protective immunity against a *S. aureus* ~~comprising a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 7.~~

Claim 27 (previously presented): The composition of claim 26, wherein said polypeptide immunogen is substantially purified.

Claim 28 (currently amended): The composition of claim 27, wherein said polypeptide immunogen consists of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a sequence that differs from SEQ ID NO: 1 by with up to 10 amino acid alterations from SEQ ID NO: 1, and said polypeptide provides protective immunity against *S. aureus* COL.

Claim 29 (currently amended): The composition of claim 28, wherein said polypeptide immunogen consists of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a sequence that differs from SEQ ID NO: 1 by with up to 5 amino acid alterations from SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 30 (currently amended): The composition of claim 27, wherein said polypeptide immunogen consists of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a sequence that differs from SEQ ID NO: 1 by with up to 1 amino acid alteration from SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The composition of claim 27, wherein said polypeptide immunogen consists essentially of amino acids 3-260 of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3-264 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 32 (currently amended): The composition of claim 27, wherein said polypeptide immunogen consists of ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.